

to have an abruptly white tip. Palatine foramina not so short as in *Uromys*, their length approximating to once and a half the distance from their hinder end to the molars. Mesopterygoid fossa broad anteriorly; back of palate about at level of  $m^3$ . Incisors normal, not specially deep in proportion to their breadth, the depth of the lower ones not equalling the combined breadth of the pair. Palate-ridges, where known, consisting of about 5 or 6 interdental ridges in addition to the simple pre dental ones\* . . . . . II. *Melomys*.

Genotype: *M. rufescens* † (*Uromys rufescens*, Alst.).

Range: Melanesia in a broad sense—from the Talaut Islands and Moluccas through New Guinea to the Solomon Islands, and southwards to North Australia.

Species described: *aerosus*, *arcium*, *bruijnii*, *calidor*, *caurinus*, *cervinipes*, *fraterculus*, *fulgens*, *gracilis*, *leucogaster*, *levipes*, *lorentzi*, *lutillus*, *melicus*, *mollis*, *moncktoni*, *murinus*, *musavora*, *muscalis*, *naso*, *obiensis*, *platyops*, *porculus*, *rufescens*, *stulkeri*, *talaudium*.

B. Skull with zygomatic plate scarcely projecting.

Bullæ comparatively large, inflated. Mesopterygoid fossa narrowed anteriorly to a point, which is level with the hinder edge of  $m^2$ .

a. Size of the single species rather large. Tail medium, wholly black. Palatine foramina about as in *Melomys*. Incisors broad and stout, the lower ones not deep in proportion to their width. Palate-ridges not known . . . III. *Solomys*.

Genotype and sole species: *S. sapientis* (*Uromys sapientis*, Thos.).

Range: Solomon Islands only.

### XXX.—New Mammals from New Guinea and neighbouring Islands. By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

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BY the kindness of Dr. W. K. Dammerman of Buitenzorg I have been entrusted with the examination of the considerable number of Papuan mammals in the Museum under his care, the majority of them coming from recent expeditions to New Guinea, notably that of 1920 to the Mamberano-Idenburg region of N. New Guinea, carried out by Mr. W. C. van Heurn.

\* As figured by Jentink, *tab. cit.* fig. 3.

† Chosen because I happen to be able to check the number of palate-ridges in one of the typical specimens.

A full list of the mammals will in due course appear in 'Nova Guinea,' but in the meantime it seems advisable to publish preliminary diagnoses of the new forms.

By the generosity of the authorities at Buitenzorg, the types of the new species are presented to the British Museum.

*Nyctimene celeno*, sp. n.

A large species related to *N. aello*, with similar broad dorsal band, but rather smaller, and of browner coloration.

Forearm 83 mm. Skull, greatest length 36.5.

*Hab.* North New Guinea.

*Type.* Adult male. B.M. no. 22. 2. 2. 2.

*Rattus mordax tramitius*, subsp. n.

Like true *mordax*, but colour blackish grey, without fulvous suffusion.

Head and body 175 mm.; tail 170; hind foot 35.5. Skull-length 41.5.

*Hab.* Doormanpad-bivak, N. New Guinea (*W. C. van Heurn*).

*Type.* Female. B.M. no. 22. 2. 2. 13. Original number 86.

*Rattus cœnorum*, sp. n.

Like *R. mordax*, but larger, stouter, with heavier feet and skull.

Head and body 207 mm.; tail 230; hind foot 44. Skull-length 47.

*Hab.* Pionier-bivak, Mamberano River (*W. C. van Heurn*).

*Type.* Male. B.M. no. 22. 2. 2. 19. Original number 26.

*Rattus bandiculus*, sp. n.

A clumsy, heavily built rat, still larger than *cœnorum*.

Head and body 252 mm.; tail 220; hind foot 49; skull-length 54.

*Hab.* Pionier-bivak, Mamberano River (*W. C. van Heurn*).

*Type.* Old male. B.M. no. 22. 2. 2. 22. Original number 25.

*Stenomys* \* *arrogans*, sp. n.

A medium-sized species, with a remarkably swollen brain-case.

Head and body 120 mm.; tail 125; hind foot 25.5. Skull, length 34, breadth of brain-case 15.5.

*Hab.* Doormanpad-bivak, 2400 m. (*W. C. van Heurn*).

*Type.* Female. B.M. no. 22. 2. 2. 24. Original number 196.

*Melomys* *rattoides*, sp. n.

A large species, with close glossy fur. and long slender skull.

Head and body 210 mm.; tail 160; hind foot 41. Skull-length 48.5.

*Hab.* Mamberano River (*W. C. van Heurn*).

*Type.* Male. B.M. no. 22. 2. 2. 25. Original number 22.

*Melomys* *lanosus*, sp. n.

A soft-haired species, rather smaller than *rattoides*. Colour greyish.

Head and body 175 mm.; tail 143; hind foot 36.5. Skull-length 42.

*Hab.* Doormanpad-bivak (*W. C. van Heurn*).

*Type.* Female. B.M. no. 22. 2. 2. 27. Original number 190.

*Melomys* *rubex*, sp. n.

Size small. General colour rufous. Under surface washed with pale rufous-grey, no hairs white to the base.

Skull slender, smooth, not ridged.

Head and body 132 mm.; tail 130; hind foot 29. Skull-length 34.2.

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\* A new genus related to *Stenomys* is:—

## NESOROMYS, gen. nov.

Genotype: *N. ceramicus* (*Stenomys ceramicus*, Thos. Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. (9) vi. p. 425, 1920).

Distinguishable from *Stenomys* by long narrow muzzle; palate extended backwards nearly halfway from back of  $m^3$  to front of bulla; palatal foramina far forward in front of molars; masseteric knob nearly halfway up the front edge of the zygomatic plate; and with unusually formed pterygoids.

The peculiar characters of the Ceram representative of *Stenomys* were not sufficiently appreciated when I described the species, and I now think it should form a special genus.

*Hab.* Doormanpad-bivak, N.W. New Guinea (*W. C. van Heurn*).

*Type.* Male. B.M. no. 22. 2. 2. 44. Original number 90.

*Hydromys esox illuteus*, subsp. n.

Like *esox*, but greyer and less suffused with fulvous.

Head and body 260 mm.; tail 215; hind foot 50.5.  
Skull-length 48.5.

*Hab.* Idenburg River (*W. C. van Heurn*).

*Type.* Male. B.M. no. 22. 2. 2. 61. Original number 45.

*Dorcopsis hageni caurina*, subsp. n.

Like *hageni*, but the colour browner and the sides as dark as the back.

Head and body 640 mm.; tail 440; hind foot 143. Skull-length 144.

*Hab.* Mamberano River (*W. C. van Heurn*).

*Type.* B.M. no. 22. 2. 2. 63. Original number 218.

*Dorcopsis vanheurni*, sp. n.

Allied to *D. macleayi*, but smaller and with finer, softer fur.

Head and body 390 mm.; tail 300; hind foot 100; ear 35.  
Skull-length 82.

*Hab.* Doormanpad-bivak (*W. C. van Heurn*).

*Type.* Adult female. B.M. no. 22. 2. 2. 64. Original number 16.

*Pseudochirus dammermani*, sp. n.

Smallest species of the genus; allied to *P. schlegeli*, but smaller, and with end of tail naked below; ears pale, not blackish.

Head and body (young) 152 mm.; tail 173. First two molariform teeth 6.

*Hab.* Dutch North New Guinea.

*Type.* Young. B.M. no. 22. 2. 2. 69. Original number 89.

*Peroryctes dorsalis*, sp. n.

Like *P. ornatus*, but the striping on head and rump practically confined to the median line; tail almost completely naked.

Head and body 270 mm.; tail 185; hind foot 54. Skull-length 63.

*Hab.* Doormanpad-bivak (*W. C. van Heurn*).

*Type.* Female. B.M. no. 22. 2. 2. 74. Original number 12.

*Sminthopsis rufigenis*, sp. n.

A greyish species with conspicuously red cheeks, as in the much larger *S. virginie* of Queensland.

Head and body 91 mm.; tail 102; hind foot 21·3. Skull 26·5.

*Hab.* Aru Islands.

*Type.* Female in spirit. B.M. no. 22. 2. 2. 76. Original number XX.

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XXXI.—*A new Marmoset from the Lower Amazons.*

By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

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AN examination of the Museum specimens of *Mystax ursulus* shows that those from the west side of the Tocantins River are definably different from those round Pará itself.

The new one may be called :—

*Mystax ursulus umbratus*, subsp. n.

Similar in essential characters to Pará *ursulus*, but darker throughout, the black shoulder-mantle extending further down the back—to halfway between shoulders and thighs—and the mottled part of the body grizzled finely with dull ochraceous instead of coarsely with buffy.

Dimensions of the type (measured in the flesh) :—

Head and body 230 mm.; tail 352; hind foot 68; ear 30.

Skull : greatest length 48·5; basal length 35; zygomatic breadth 34.

*Hab.* Lower Amazons west of the main Tocantins River; type from Cameté.

*Type.* Old female. B.M. no. 11. 4. 28. 4. Original number 31. Collected 20th January, 1911, by Fräulein Dr. E. Snethlage. Presented by the Goeldi Museum, Pará.

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